A method of detecting a stealth virus is provided by culturing a sample under conditions in which any stealth virus in the sample is able to induce a cytopathic effect. A method for culturing a virus is also provided by (a) cocentrifuging a sample of said virus with a permissive cell line of indicator cells; (b) inoculating the cell mixture into culture vessels; (c) adding viral enhancing medium to the culture; and (d) detecting in vitro a cytopathic effect in the permissive cell line.